



PORTAGE YOUTH SOFTBALL

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2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

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KEY FOR TEAM REVIEW RATINGS

1.00 - 2.99 Significant Improvement Needed	3.00 - 3.99 Some Improvement Needed	4.00 - 5.00 Little or No Improvement Needed
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Number of Athletes & Team Selections

Number of Athletes	Number of Responses
1 Athlete	58
2 Athletes	8
3 Athletes	0
4 Athletes	0
5 Athletes	0
Average	1.12

Team	Number of Responses
Rookie Team	13
10U Team	17
10U Pride Team	11
12U Black Team	8
12U Orange Team	7
12U Pride Team	8
14U Black Team	7
14U Orange Team	8
14U Pride Team	8
16/18U Team	12
Total Responses	66



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Events (Youth Night, Preseason Practices, Skills Clinics)

Did you attend our first annual "Youth Night at the Warrior Softball Game"?

Yes	No	Percent Yes
38	28	57.58%

Comments on Youth Night at the Warrior Softball Game (Comments only collected if response was "Yes.")

1. I did not attend. Daughter did though.
2. Fun idea
3. We came right near the end so everything was pretty much done so can't comment one way or the other, other than maybe a little longer window next time.
4. Liked
5. We made part of it as we had conflicts and got there late. My daughter
6. My daughter enjoyed meeting the girls and having her picture taken with them.
7. This was a great idea to have a designated youth night on the night of PHS games. The HS players signing autographs on the team picture for the kids was also a good idea and a big hit with the younger kids. Something to consider for the future might be to have the youth line up in front of the varsity players for the National Anthem before the game.
8. Liked it all
9. Good Idea and start. Need to get the younger kids to stick around for game. A few did, but majority left after getting the poster. Also would be good to have Rec Team coaches there with their team, and make it a team bonding night.
10. Fun
11. Awesome. Please repeat! Great to have girls connect with upper-classmen
12. Loved the autograph session! Maybe teams could walk on field and be announced over the loudspeaker.
13. I like the idea of it. Maybe before the varsity game let them play an inning?
14. Great event, my girls loved it!
15. We thought it was great for the younger girls to get out and see and meet the "big" girls.
16. It was a nice event. Good for the younger girls to see and meet the senior girls.
17. I think expressing to the team some type of interaction with the girls who come out to get their autograph would go a long way for the kids that come out. The team, not unexpected, were mostly chatting amongst themselves. I get it. But maybe a brief coaching of the team beforehand how to show a little more attention to the kids would be a good thing. Maybe have the kids warm up on the field prior to the game??
18. It was a great concept but there were no interactions between the high school players and the young girls. They just went through a line and got autographs and then went home. My daughter loves the poster though with the autographs and has it hanging in her room.



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19. Nice to have girls signing the posters

How often did your athlete(s) attend our optional preseason practices at John Muir?

Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
16	19	15	16

Comments on Optional Preseason Practices (Comments collected on all responses except "Never.")

20. I think she only made one. I think those practices are great we just had scheduling conflicts with other activities.
21. Liked that they were optional and not forced/guilty into coming. The content/drills are a bit challenging for the rookie level, where most have not mastered fielding/catching yet.
22. I think that was good maybe have more of the older kids helping younger kids
23. Very necessary. I helped at all that I wasn't coaching basketball.
24. She would have attended more, but some days it interfered with her Basketball season.
25. There were some Sunday nights in which there was a schedule conflict with travel ball practice or a pitching lesson. However, having the Saturday morning winter workouts in Beaver Dam were great & I'm told that much was accomplished. Attendance on Saturday mornings was good.
26. Liked practicing during the winter
27. Helped
28. The teams did not have enough practice and it showed on the field. We were also not aware of the option to be involved in Youth Skills Clinics.
29. Awesome thank you for preseason
30. We have another athlete in a winter sport so it was difficult for us to get to most of the practices. I would rather attend skills clinics or camps.
31. Great. I love that portage coaches everyone the same. I love that we stress fundamentals so much. I have some friends that have daughter's in other communities that are a year or 2 older than my daughter and she is definitely in better position, form, and technique. Keep them going every Sunday in the winter my daughter sat at the door with her softball gear waiting to go.
32. Great to get the extra practice since they had such a short season. Liked having small groups
33. I think it's great to help prepare the girls for the season and it helps teach the newer girls the basics.
34. My girls would participate much more however they both cannot stand Coach Joe Woodhouse. He is the primary and sole reason their participation is limited.
35. Everyone was very welcoming to my new child even though most other children have been doing softball for many years already. This was amazing. She was very encouraged throughout practices and games.
36. It was very difficult to be prepared prior to having players show up because the majority of the sessions I was waiting for someone with a key to show up; which typically was right at or after the scheduled start time. Stations should be set up prior to the start time and a plan in place for each session as a



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progression from January through March. I hate feeling unprepared and looking foolish waiting just because no one with a key shows up.

37. Meghan Reiche (daughter) and I think that preseason practices are very valuable and appreciate the opportunity.
38. My daughter loved the optional practices but could not make quite a few because of basketball games/practices being held on the same day.
39. Very helpful in getting the girls ready for the season. The girls that showed up on a constant basis were ahead of the ones that just started coming during the season.
40. Very helpful to get our daughter ready for the season.
41. I have one beginning and one ending so I do have to say I like the idea of these being optional and not penalizing them during the season if they can't make it regularly.

Did your athlete(s) attend any of the Youth Skills Clinics sponsored by the Portage High School Softball Program?

Yes	No	Percent Yes
27	39	40.91%

What do you think is an appropriate price per clinic? (Response only collected if prior response was "Yes.")

\$5	\$10	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30	Average
9	6	2	5	3	2	\$13.70

Comments on Youth Skills Clinics (Comments only collected if previous response was "Yes.")

42. daughter of one of the HS athletes.
43. We also attended a clinic in whitewater
44. Skills clinic should be a donation not force payment
45. I think the more the better.
46. I feel the clinics are priced appropriately and appreciate these extra clinics being offered to the girls.
47. Clinics are GREAT thank you. Only suggesting small fee bc I wouldn't want anyone to be discouraged from attending.
48. Another great thing don't lose it.
49. I thought they were very quick introductions at the levels I attended. Were very well run and thought out. They were also kept fun for the girls. I don't recall the exact length of team for each but I felt like we could have gone longer and the girls would have gone longer.
50. Hitting camp for older kids would be nice
51. I didn't stay to watch so I am not sure how structured it was to criticize one way or the other.



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Organizational Communication

In which ways did you engage with our organization this season?

Website	Facebook	RainedOut	Tandem	Email
52	33	50	11	55

Comments on Communication

52. Great communication!
53. Communication was good.
54. When the coaches request the kids to fill-in or play for another team for a game, weekend tournament or season they should be sure the PARENTS of the child are aware of the request or change and get it okayed before any final decision can be made. Parents are responsible for their kids and making the arrangements.
55. I think parent, coaches, and players should know that umpires make the calls. If umpires continue to make the wrong call there must be a proper way to address that. This is in reference to the Baraboo incident. If that happened here that would be embarrassing. No good comes from that type of outburst. Do we have a procedure in place for these types of circumstances? My opinion is zero tolerance for that type of behavior.
56. I was pleased with communication.
57. Awesome website!!!! Plenty of means to communicate so that everyone could have access to the necessary information. The Rained Out feature is great.
58. I don't understand why some families don't sign up for RainedOut
59. Excellent website & communication system. Thank you!
60. Communication was good! I personally would love to know how our money is being spent, ie. Field improvements, new equipment etc. It's a great selling point for potential sponsors if I can communicate effectively on where our money is being spent to further our program.
61. No issues
62. Communication from the head coach was fantastic and organized.
63. Chris Brom did a great job communicating expectations at the beginning of the season and more importantly, following through during the course of the season. His regular emails throughout the season were very clear and professional. I also appreciated how he kept the players and parents positive even though we did not win all the time. He cared more about growth, which is most important.
64. Rained out was great. I also loved the other texts from coach. Texting was my favorite way for communicating. Don't always check emails. But I always check texts.
65. Phenomenal. Website is top notch and Tandem and Rained out are spectacular tools that work very well. We are lucky to have Jake managing our site.
66. We need to be better at canceling practices earlier- Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc. All were last minute cancellations.



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- 67. I think it was well organized. Our coach was also good at keeping us informed of any changes to schedule etc
- 68. Great communication!
- 69. Rained out did not always work. Did not always get alerts.
- 70. Loved the linkable calendar. It made scheduling very easy. Additionally, the maps for away games was a fantastic feature.



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Tournament Fundraiser

Do you think PYS should host a youth softball tournament in the summer?

Yes	No	Percent Yes
60	6	90.91%

If we required each family to work one or two shifts per athlete at the tournament, would you still register your player(s) with our organization?

Yes	No	Percent Yes
64	2	96.97%

Tournament Committee Volunteers (Selected that they would be willing to serve on the Tournament Committee)

- Troy Simonson
- Katie Dolato
- Tanya Przybyl
- Tim Kratz
- Jen Teela
- David Bolgrien
- Robert Fick
- Janet Holtan
- Beth Loomis
- Eddie Diekhuis
- Todd Miller
- Mark Witt
- Chris Brom
- Danielle Pollexrabl
- Tammy Chapman
- Angie Chappell

Comments on Hosting a Tournament Fundraiser

71. I think a tournament would be a great way for the club to raise money. I know they are a lot of work, but I think we could pull it off.
72. I would be more willing to help if we turned the scoreboard on For Sure!! I'm sure other parents would agree.
73. If I am not working would definitely help out.
74. It would be great to have a local tournament.
75. I suspect this goes without saying, but I sure hope you wouldn't be considering this for the rookie age level, where the "games" aren't really games. Even the 10U level seems pretty beginner but at least nearing being skilled enough.
76. This is a total commitment from PYS from top down
77. We are out of town a lot of the summer so that is why I said no.
78. I have always coached so that limits my time.
79. I think this would help camaraderie amongst players and families.
80. There are plenty of people with tournament experience in the community and on the board. If you're going to do this you have to have it scheduled by Jan 1. Start small with 4 or 6 teams with a couple of age groups. Do it for longer term and look to build it and expand it.
81. Will help any way I can.



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- 82. I most definitely think this is a great idea!
- 83. My daughter is still too young to worry about any tournaments.
- 84. Culver's is close, tough for concessions
- 85. I really liked the minimal commitment for summer. I'm not sure I would even sign my child up for the extra tournament thing. I'm not sure exactly how much time this would take. Would it only be one day? Or is this many days?
- 86. If we would have to depend on the school to keep the fields maintained in between and prior to games for a tournament I'm not sure it would be an experience similar to the quality seen at most other tournaments. That would be my ONLY concern. I'd be willing to help out with tournaments for multiple age groups. Since we only have two fields I envision a couple to a few tournaments to cover the different age groups.
- 87. We need to do this.
- 88. Believe it would be a great way to make money for Portage Youth Softball. Would help the community businesses.
- 89. Great way to be involved and it is only helpful to the kids to have more opportunity to play and learn many life experiences through tournament play.



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Uniforms

What style of uniform would you like us to provide to our athletes?

Cotton T-Shirt	Dri-Fit T-Shirt	Dri-Fit Sleeveless Shirt
1	5	60

Comments on Uniforms

90. Anything dri fit is very washable & breathable, I love that.
91. Have one jersey for the League and pride teams.
92. If you aren't reusing the uniforms, then a Dri Fit t-shirt would be preferred for Rookie level at least, as in my opinion the girls would be much more likely to wear them in daily life rather than the sleeveless versions, and thus more publicity for the program.
93. We just loved the uniforms this year!
94. I was happy with what they have now.
95. Darker colors instead of orange
96. Would be willing to pay more for these, too. I think it was awesome that the Rookies got them, too, so they could be like the older girls.
97. Per the kids, most prefer current Pride tank over current Rec tank. I just add, the lighter the color, the better.
98. What is the reasoning for not reusing uniforms? Would there be a way to keep the uniforms the same design so for example if they play on 10U for 2-3 years the girls don't need to buy a new top each year??
99. No issues here. I like the uniforms.
100. Liked the change this year
101. My daughter loved the uniform and made her feel like a softball player.
102. The newer uniforms were much cooler on the hotter days and the girls could always layer on the cooler days.
103. Have girl sizes not unisex
104. Whatever you think keeps them the coolest.
105. We look like a real softball organization now. Need to continue to provide these type of uniforms in lighter colors to help the athletes deal with the inevitable heat of the summer sun.
106. Much better fit for girls this year in rec ball.
107. Very cool! My daughter loved her jersey!
108. Really liked the uniforms this year. Like how softball uses the Warrior head
109. WARRIOR HEAD!!
110. Not black. They are too hot.
111. We loved the uniform but I didn't appreciate the additional cost for the pride uniform after paying an additional \$200. Plus we had to pay \$5.00 more just for the number on the back. Yet, when she was



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asked to play up on the 12u tournament for a weekend, we just grabbed a pride shirt from the shed. Why can't we use those for the uniform?

- 112. it would be nice to have matching pants like we see with other teams we play against at tournaments.
- 113. A grey shirt would be great. Just not white.
- 114. Not happy about purchasing 2 white t shirts for pride that we only wore a couple times. Waste of money. We bought 2 because last year we were washing every night on tournament weekends. Kids didn't like them, sleeves were below the elbow. Had subs often who had old black sleeveless so that is what we wore most of the time.
- 115. The new style looks uniform throughout the program I think going back to the cotton tee would be a step backwards. I have noticed many very nice uniforms by many teams throughout our years of being involved.



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Concession Stand

How often did you purchase items from our concession stand?

Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
10	37	10	9

Comments on our Concession Stand

116. I think adding pizza would be a good seller. Maybe few different kinds of potato chips :)
117. My 12 year old son is always hungry. If there is food at the game he will be buying something.
118. Publicize that it will be open every week during signup, etc. along with what will be available. We forgot most of the time and didn't know to plan on it being available.
119. They don't have much of a selection. Maybe pretzels with nacho cheese, nachos and maybe even something like ice cream or corn on the cob?
120. Good concessions
121. Great job
122. Family & friends use concessions, but I'm all about water & nutrition as coach & parent. I don't think anyone who attends more than one game should worry about bringing in water. As coach & parent of player, I want team to have access to water, low-cal sports drinks & fresh fruit... if long day lean protein... & think team should be able to bring in any of this to keep costs low for teams.
123. I think it's great, especially when the girls have double headers or two kids have games.
124. We loved having the concession stand and always visited it. In fact, I wonder if it is possible to find out which schools do NOT have a concession stand At our games so we can be prepared. We very much liked visiting the concession stands at each school.
125. You have the best concession stand worker!
126. We only had two home games that were not rained out so there was no time to visit the concessions.
127. Was not always open.
128. POPCORN many nights we went to get popcorn and they didn't have any... I understand it was a hassle to clean the machine? There is always a thought of buying a big bag from the theater and bagging and reselling. Hotdogs all beef holiday wholesale brats precooked holiday wholesale these can be put in a crock smell good and sell... Pizza oven selling pieces of pizza






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Apparel

Did your order anything from our apparel order?

Yes	No	Percent Yes
33	33	50.00%

Which logos would you like offered throughout the apparel order?

PYS Logo 	Flying P 	Warrior Head 
40	33	41

Which of the following items would you be interested in purchasing next year?

Item	Number of Responses
T-Shirts	54
Long Sleeve Shirts	20
Sweatshirts	29
Jackets	11
Hats	22
Gloves	4
Socks	18
Window Sticker	30
Smaller Child/Youth Size/Baby Sizes	2
Sleeveless tanks and ladies cut checks with cap sleeves	1
Sweatpants	1
¾ Pillowcase	1
Proud to parent of my softball player shirt	1



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Comments on Apparel

129. for some reason, I did not know about the ordering until daughter already had her uniform. Not sure where the information was located. Maybe I missed the emails.
130. It's hard to size what we can't see & we had like no time to decide. Too short of notice.
131. I wasn't comfortable ordering anything with the old Indian head logo on it.
132. It was nice, pretty expensive. Maybe the athletes could get a % off for one of the items ordered? It might entice people to buy more or for the ones who didn't/can't afford extra to be able to purchase something. Softball gear and fees is expensive.
133. All were good
134. Had already purchased apparel for HS team order. Which they use a team fundraiser. I would run the apparel order after the HS team runs their order in the spring of the year.
135. We did not receive information regarding an apparel order. If an order form would have made it home, we would have made a purchase.
136. Past rec orders nice. This year only Pride apparel also nice, thank you. Distributor ran out of socks, will need some next yr. Not sure if reimbursed for 1 missing pair. Thank you for coordinating what a pain that must be.
137. We ordered shirts. They are generic portage shirts. I would to see more clothing options that promote the program.
138. I don't know if there was a link or a catalog to look through, but I would have ordered something if I would have known.
139. Maybe have portage slides
140. Just what we had to order for the players!
141. Ordered several different items for each member of the family and everyone was very pleased with designs, options, and fit. I get the price points for each item were definitely fair, particularly for a fundraiser.
142. Wish the warrior head logo stuff would have been available for a longer period of time.
143. Very happy with the apparel we ordered.
144. Would like to see the the apparel orders start before the season, so we can have the merchandise throughout the whole season.
145. Order deadline was too short.
146. NOT a fan of white I get it it is cooler but hard to keep clean see through for the older girls i heard saw. I ordered a short in pink and I got it in blue but it was fine.



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Portage Pride & Tournaments

OPTION 1: Continue Portage Pride as it is currently setup. This includes selecting a team of players prior to the season and practices beginning. Tryouts would be required and Pride teams would play in 2-6 tournaments throughout the season depending on the head coach's preference. An additional fee would be required in addition to the regular registration fee. The fees from this year were \$200 for 10U, \$250 for 12U, and \$300 for 14U. This option would also require at least one more night of softball for these players as Pride teams would have practices in addition to the recreational practices. Additionally, most tournaments take place Friday-Sunday and each team's tournament schedule and locations will not be known until after players commit to the team.

OPTION 2: Change the way Portage Pride is currently setup. Enough players to form a team would be offered playing spots midway through the season. It would not matter which recreational team athletes were on and tryouts would only be required if the head coach felt it was necessary to make fair decisions on who should play on the team. With this option, these players would wear their regular recreational uniforms for these tournaments. They would play in 1-2 tournaments toward the end of the season or after the season is complete. Additional practices for this team would only start once the team was created midway through the season. A small fee would also apply for this option, but it would be much lower than Option 1.

Which option would you select for the 10U, 12U, & 14U Leagues?

League	Option 1	Option 2	No Preference	Percent Option 1	Percent Option 2
10U League	12	28	26	30.00%	70.00%
12U League	20	20	25	50.00%	50.00%
14U League	28	15	22	65.11%	34.88%

NOTE: Percentages calculated using only responses that selected "Option 1" or "Option 2." Responses that selected "No Preference" were ignored in this calculation, but they are shown above.

Comments on Portage Pride & Tournaments

- 147. cost of these extra uniforms is eliminating some players and families from participating. These are athletes who are talented, and have work conflicts and spending \$ on these extra uniforms hurts the entire family vs benefiting 1 member for 1 summer. Try to get tournaments closer to home.
- 148. Maybe have a second pride team this way gives all players a chance to play.
- 149. Either way would be fine. I think for 10U sometimes the player or parents aren't sure if they want to commit before the season starts.



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150. I am not in support of taking so many precious weekends away from families at a young age, until the kids become more skilled and dedicated to the sport. To start the 4-6 weekend tournament circuit before the kids really know whether they are good enough to play into high school or even want to commit to the sport fully seems counterproductive for both the kids and parents. I would hate to see a kid on the fence turned off because they aren't ready to fully immerse yet.
151. It's too expensive.
152. tryout should be a must. It takes away of parents thinking coaches are hand picking certain kids for the team. It is based on their tryouts.
153. I'm contemplating putting my daughter in 10U next year because of all the tournaments and weekend games/practices. We are out of town most weekends during the summer so it would be hard for my daughter to participate.
154. The teams need to be selective to be competitive.
155. Many younger girls don't understand what Pride is all about, which might keep them from trying out. Part of the issue with Fall tryouts is that some families don't want to commit to a schedule for the following summer at that time. This hasn't been an issue for my family, but I've heard it from others.
156. We would be possibly interested in our daughter playing for the Pride team, however, to us, the cost seemed high. \$200 per player, plus the cost of an additional jersey (couldn't the same one be used?) for 3 tournaments seemed very high. Maybe more communication as to where that money goes?? 10 players at 200 a piece is \$2000. Is that all for entry fees?? We're certainly able to pay the money, if it was worthwhile, but that seemed too high. Just an FYI.
157. You can't have all regular league coaches be pride coaches. Pride should not bump regular practice times but it does. NOT FAIR TO THE KIDS NOT ON PRIDE .THEY ALL PAY THE SAME FEE. One coach per team has got nothing to do with pride so he/she can coach.
158. Currently too expensive.
159. We've aged out of 1st two groups, so no preference, but would say 12u should be option 1. We would like to emphasize that if you don't have strong turnout for August tryouts, please consider NOT accepting whoever shows up. Instead hold spring tryout & have coaches encourage stronger athletes to tryout then. Also helps families decide if tourney schedule available in spring.
160. I would love to see a condensed rec season followed by Pride tournaments the rest of the season. I can only speak for our 10U Pride team but man I would've loved to see what that group of girls could do if we could've worked more with them! I think parents would be willing to commit if we didn't have to compete with our rec schedule.
161. My daughter was only a rookie league player. I don't know how the next level really works.
162. Option 2 will be less exhausting on the girls.
163. Why \$300 what does the money all go towards? My other daughter plays on an 18u team and she pays \$100 every year and plays in the same amount of tourneys as the Pride does! They only have one shirt to wear, they buy their own pants and socks, which is great because you are there to play softball not have 2-3 different uniforms! That amount included asa insurance. So could you please break down the \$300.



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164. High additional cost and many additional days of commitment during the summer would actually make me not want my child on the pride team. We just don't have a lot of extra time/weekends that we could devote to the pride commitment probably.
165. It's difficult to select one or the other. The biggest problem right now is the complete lack of communication by the current Pride coordinator to board members, coaches, athletes and parents. A change needs to be made. Secondly, if Portage wants to field a true competitive tournament team, we need numbers. By numbers I mean enough players to be dedicated over a longer time frame spring through summer and ONLY be a tournament team. This would mean more tournaments and higher costs. Tryouts would need to be held shortly after the regular season ends and financial down payments made for each player up front. There's much more but that's my starting point. If we don't have the numbers and/or talent at a certain level one year, the tryouts will show that and no tournament team will be formed at that level. Very little emphasis should be on numbers; far more on talent and dedication to being a true tournament team. Short of all of that; just do a couple local low key tournaments toward the latter part of the season.
166. My daughter played on a Pride team. Is it normal after a player makes a error. For the coach to come out and take her glove? Then when he returns to the dugout. To spike it on the ground?
167. Make an effort to see more teams. We saw a lot of the same teams.
168. The Pride team is, or has been, a tournament team. However this year's 12u pride team was not set up nor ran as a tournament team, which as a paying parent was and is upsetting. Tournament teams are designed for competition to encourage a higher level of performance so that the girls strive to play at their best. This year quite frankly was a disaster. There were girls on the team that didn't want to play, others that expressed negative attitudes which brought the team down, players drawing numbers for batting order, negative comments from coach to players and coach to assistant coach.... very upsetting and embarrassing. Embarrassing not because it was a young, learning team, but because they were set up for failure because of coaching behavior.
169. Seems like a little much for the younger players.
170. I think 1 to 2 tournament is totally appropriate for younger players. Every weekend, all weekend, and a sizeable financial investment for girls under the age of 12 seems like a great way to burn out kids and parents.
171. I think younger girls it's a big commitment to do more and many girls don't know if this is a sport they really like yet
172. If the age group is a weaker class, talentwise, then waiting to evaluate is definitely an advantage. If you have 12-15 quality players then you could have tryouts in the fall so you could schedule better tournaments the following summer
173. They need more practice. Some of the games are embarrassing how much better the other teams are.
174. The amount we paid for the pride league should be a reflection of the number of tournament that team is playing. Also include the fee for the pride shirt(s) in the fee. If not, then if the parents have to order and pay online for the shirts then the shirts should be mailed to the athlete's home. This info had to be summoned when ordering the shirt. It would be nice also that a strong suggestion to have the girls wear the same color pants and same color socks so they look like a united team.



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175. It is a large commitment to play pride when you are required to play league also. We we're playing 3-4 nights a weeks, tournaments on weekends and Sunday practices. There are many kids who do not show up for practices and many games, but expect to play equal time as ones who are always there.
176. The option 2 is not much different than what was done. For the 10U not many of those parents wanted to pay the extra for their kids to play the extra tournaments Pride was offering. As you can tell by the 18 girls on the team and 11 on pride. Many felt it was a lot of extra money for 3 tournaments. As many are new to it I am not sure of the knowledge of the possibilities of how much skilled game time experience they received during the tournament play verses playing BB, Dells, Reedsburg in regular summer season. Either way I think it is a good experience for the girls I think they were overwhelmed in many cases as they saw such different skill in tournament play then they were used to in rec league. I watched as my own experience to see how my daughter grew confidence and I feel her part in the Pride experience helped her so I am definitely for keeping something going but maybe a little different for the 10u. As for the uniform it's not a big deal to use the same one as many times we were told to wear our orange jersey anyway after having to but the Pride jersey???? Either option I am fine with just think you might have more to pick from in new growth with the new girls if you didn't have the higher amount of money for a few tournaments.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Fall Softball

If the opportunity presented itself, would your daughter(s) be interested in playing in an age appropriate fall softball league? A small fee may apply to cover umpire expenses.

Yes	No	Maybe	Not applicable to my daughter(s)	Percent Yes	Percent Yes or Maybe
31	9	17	9	54.54%	85.21%

NOTE: Percentages calculated using only responses that selected "Yes," "No," and "Maybe." Responses that selected "Not applicable to my daughter(s)" were ignored in these calculations, but they are shown above.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Volunteer Experiences

I was a volunteer in some way this season, either as a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, or Parent Helper.

Yes	No	Percent Yes
23	43	34.85%

Did you find the required NFHS "Concussion in Sports" course educational and a good requirement for volunteers? (Response only collected if respondent indicated they were a volunteer.)

Yes	No	Percent Yes
22	1	95.65%

Did you attend one of the Coaching Clinics run by the PHS Softball Coaches? (Response only collected if respondent indicated they were a volunteer.)

Yes	No	Percent Yes
20	3	86.96%

Did you find the coaching clinic educational and worthwhile? (Response only collected if previous response was "Yes.")

Yes	No	Percent Yes
20	0	100.00%

How often were you present at the optional preseason practices to assist players with drills and skills? (Response only collected if respondent indicated they were a volunteer.)

Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
8	7	3	5

Comments on Coaching Clinics (Comments only collected if response was "Yes" to the attendance question.)

177. I worked with the coaches and wanted to comment as the only ones that I could get to got cancelled. These should continue.
178. I attended a coaching clinic which was added on after the initial clinics were completed. This was good as I decided to help out after those clinics had occurred. However, the clinic I attended was very brief (unsure how it compared to the initial clinics). It may have been nice to have some varsity players



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demonstrate some of the skills after the initial instruction/examples were given. This would've reinforced the information.

179. Yes, but needs to be expanded. We want good coaches, yet we allow them to coach after attending one 10-60 minute coaching clinic. Sorry but that is not enough of a background. Not sure what the solution is, but those that are going to be Head Coaches, need to put more time into learning the game, learning fundamentals, strategy.
180. Grateful for Coaching Clinic, thank you.
181. Maybe separate the clinics to more age specific coaching.
182. I think that the more varsity coaches can attend events or games or practice the better. Nice to see Connie at a lot of events
183. Next year, particularly for new coaches or coaches who have perhaps had some complaints from parents; greater emphasis should be made on HOW to coach the girls at different levels. Expectations of coaches. Expectations of players. Timeline of skills progression. Handouts and/or examples of an actual practice plan with a list of stations and how to set up a practice and keep it running. Stress on not having high numbers of girls standing in lines doing nothing but waiting.
184. It was nice to know what the hs coaches are looking for.
185. What about having experienced coaches help run the first few weeks of practices. Not only would they be able to show proper drills, but how to effectively schedule/run a practice.

Is there anything that we can do to better prepare and equip our volunteers for a successful season?

186. Maybe do a coaching drill day where you throw them in situations and see how they handle them. Sit down and interview coaches to see a little about them when you don't know them. Someone should go around to practices and see how things are being done. Offer a catching gear at each level if you want kids to try it. Parents aren't going to go buy it to try it or the child who buys the gear shouldn't have to share theirs as asked by coach. Make sure they have a community glove/bat at each level and first aid kit in the bag.
187. I was not able to attend either Coaching clinics due to work. I was listed as a parent helper for both the 14U black and 16/18U but was not clear what my roll was.
188. Help with the team selection. As a coach some parents get angry when their daughter doesn't make it. I am struggling if I should have my daughter play here where I may have to coach or elsewhere where coaches with more knowledge and experience are.
189. Emphasize the use of motivational and positive feedback to players and to not only focus on the negative.
190. Coaching clinics need to be done maybe late fall and first part of January, prior to open gyms beginning. Then require Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches to come and help on Sundays. It's a commitment thing. Not that they need to be there every Sunday. We have a small group of dedicated coaches on Sundays, but the majority of them will have daughters graduating in the next year or two. Besides if we have them there on Sundays it can give the board and opportunity to review how they work with kids before we make final Head Coaching Assignments in April. The other thing we might want to explore, is the ACE designations through USA softball. Most Travel Programs require at least



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

one coach to have ACE certifications per team. I know Roger Brandner did something similar to this with NFHS.

- 191. I enjoy AC, welcome feedback, and am eager to continue next year.
- 192. I know it's a lot of work but maybe we should work on putting together a manual that each coach/helper could get. In it, it would include different skills for each age level, examples of what a practice could look like for each level, some key terminology, expectations of tournament coaches/teams. I left a 12U tournament heartbroken for those girls. Coaches didn't say one thing to them after the games. Didn't highlight any positives, things they could improve on etc. I know it may seem common sense to some experienced coaches but for beginner coaches, they may find this info useful.
- 193. I was listed as a parent helper and was at the practices but I was never invited to participate
- 194. All that were part were a huge asset
- 195. I believe I covered most of that above.
- 196. Have coaches that have played fast pitch softball.
- 197. See above. I was one of the biggest proponents of the coaches clinics. I'm afraid some of the parents either don't care, think they know better, or are just not capable of showing proper drills.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Rookie Team - Head Coaches Connie Wampler, Mark Witt, & Troy Simonson

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	0	0	0	5	8	4.62
Communication from Coaching Staff	0	0	1	5	7	4.46
Number of Practices	0	2	3	2	6	3.92
Number of Games	0	1	6	2	4	3.69
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	0	1	12	4.92
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	0	0	13	5.00
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$30)?	0	0	0	2	11	4.85

Likes

198. I like that the kids seemed to be grouped by relative skill level for drills. I.E. that the older and more advanced kids were sort of put together, then a middle group, and then those that seemed younger or not quite as adept at the skills yet. Helped to keep them focused a bit more I think. Also like that they rotated to all phases of drills (fielding, hitting, throwing) each night.
199. Loved having practice once a week
200. fundamentals; coaching; progress of all kids was significant; appropriate coaching for age group
201. Absolutely loved the one on one with the girls. I feel that my daughter really benefited from this. Also liked that kids from the high school also helped out.
202. Great experience! Loved how organized it was and the positive enthusiasm from Mark, Connie, and Troy. All of the high school girls were great too. One night a week was PERFECT. Appreciated the focus on fundamentals.
203. Coaches were great at making it fun and not intimidating to learn

Dislikes

204. I would like to see more than 2 "games" even if they are real short over the first few weeks and only a short portion of practice. 4 weeks of drills seemed like a lot for the payoff of the games.
205. None at this time
206. Maybe one more practice a week but I like that they were short practices
207. None



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

208. There is such a wide span of ages and experience. My 8 year old would have liked to spend more time on rules of the game and understanding position.

Recommended Changes

209. I couldn't really tell/hear how much time was spent explaining the basics of the game in terms of what the objective is (hit the ball and get to first before the ball is caught at first, get to home to score, catch the ball to get an out, what each position is called, etc) so if that was taught then carry on. If not then I would suggest starting out with those basics so the girls know why they are doing certain things.
210. The only complaint my daughter made this year was before the last game and that was she is tired of always playing against her own team and wants to play a real game.
211. If younger children are going to be playing in the rookie league I think it should be split into 2 groups (similar to a younger group doing tball). It would also be nice to get more game experience
212. Keep it exactly as is!



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

10U Team - Head Coach Chris Brom

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	0	1	2	7	7	4.18
Communication from Coaching Staff	0	1	3	3	10	4.29
Number of Practices	0	2	2	9	4	3.88
Number of Games	0	2	5	6	4	3.71
Level of Competition	0	0	3	10	4	4.06
Proximity of Away Games	0	0	1	11	5	4.24
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	1	0	3	6	7	4.06
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	1	0	3	4	9	4.18
Amount of Playing Time	0	0	1	8	8	4.41
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$100)?	0	0	2	10	5	4.18

Likes

- 213. I liked the fact she was part of a team learning everyday life experiences from the team.
- 214. I thought the coaches did a good job with the girls. They improved tremendously from the beginning to the end of the season. Since there were 18 girls it was a good idea to split them in 3 teams so you would play with around 12 girls each game. Having the High School coaches help with practice and pitching was great.
- 215. Competition
- 216. Excellent job by coaches at practices and games. Really appreciated them moving players around to different positions, spots in the batting order, etc. Great to get the kids at this age experience all over the field! Coaches made it fun but also educational for the kids. Excellent communication by Coach Brom regarding practices, games, etc. Very much appreciated!
- 217. How they dealt with the number of girls and breaking up playing time; The head coach was extremely organized. He did a great time
- 218. Our family was very pleased with the softball experience our daughter received and thought the coaching staff did a great job.



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- 219. Chris Brom made the experience a very positive one for my daughter. This is important for her future participation in softball and other activities.
- 220. Having a smaller team would certainly be more optimal.
- 221. It was a positive encouraging environment. Coach Brom was easy to work with, was great with the girls... they all were. Practice was tougher due to all the rain delay or cancelled practices which are unavoidable. I liked that they rotated the girls to all positions and didn't start prepping them for a certain position. Too young to designate at this age.
- 222. Coach Chris was the best coach we have had in the Portage sports for the last 7 years we have lived here. He was fair, knowledgeable and a great communicator.
- 223. Chris Brom went above and beyond for the team this year and we truly appreciate all of his hard work and efforts!

Dislikes

- 224. Definitely could've been more knowledge passed on to the girls had head coach worked with others and listened and taken things into consideration. It doesn't always have to be your idea for things to work. was not impressed of the bulls locking horns at the beginning of the season. Two alpha males trying to prove different points almost cost us girls. keep open minds on both ends coaching and learning. You can't cancel practice and rebook for less than a day or two times then the girls that can't make it feel left out. TEAMS split up and it would be my belief if they split in two teams under one and played their games we would've had more opportunity. if they had to borrow from one team or another it wouldn't matter if not on same time. As it was certain times we had to borrow girls. maybe I am not thinking right on this but it was a thought. We all learn so much being out in the action of a game whether played as a scrimmage with in our age limit or whether an actual game. At this level they are learning so much to take in at a short amount of time so when someone as a head is not focused and driven it affects everyone right down the line.
- 225. A few more games would have been nice. Rain outs didn't help with games or practices.
- 226. Different rules than pride, number of girls on the team
- 227. Would've liked to have been able to make up rain dates or had a couple of extra games added. Obviously realize that a lot of this was out of anyone's control with the rain!
- 228. I thought the season went as smoothly as it could have with the high number of players and excessive rainouts of practices and games.
- 229. Why do our kids run the ball in from the outfield. Was told in a email on game days. That the kids shouldn't go to the beach or do outdoor activities. Come on. They are 10.
- 230. For my daughter's first year it went really well. 3pm Sunday practice time was right middle of afternoon and was a hot time of day. Being the weekend I would prefer a 5 or 530 pm start time.
- 231. It was unfortunate games could not be rescheduled with rain. With our team split into 3 groups, we only had a certain amount of games for our group.



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Recommended Changes

- 232. Make sure to teach everything regarding the team including going over the code of conduct
- 233. More games if possible.
- 234. At the beginning of the season there was too much confusion regarding coaching because different people were having different conversations at different times which led to some confusion. Hopefully communications will be more open moving forward.
- 235. Put Tera in charge
- 236. Could we have games against local areas? Pardeeville? Montello? Poynette?
- 237. Try to get enough girls for two teams.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

10U Pride Team - Head Coach Chris Brom

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	1	1	4	3	2	3.36
Communication from Coaching Staff	1	0	2	3	5	4.00
Number of Practices	0	5	2	2	2	3.09
Number of Tournaments	0	1	5	4	1	3.45
Quality of Tournaments	0	1	5	2	3	3.64
Level of Competition	0	3	4	2	2	3.27
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	1	1	3	2	4	3.64
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	1	0	3	4	3	3.73
Skill Level of Portage Pride 10U Team	0	3	4	2	2	3.27
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$200)?	2	4	2	1	2	2.73

Likes

238. The challenge of the learning drive for the girls might of been overwhelming too often for them but definitely simulating to their growth I believe.
239. I thought the coaches did a good job with the girls. They improved tremendously from the beginning to the end of the season. A great group of girls who played hard.
240. The competition, going to the next level
241. Chris Brom made the experience a very positive one for my daughter. This is important for her future participation in softball and other activities.
242. The girls had fun competing in the tournaments.
243. It was great when Connie came and helped the girls with catching and pitching at practice. Having a female coach /assistant coach in the dugout.

Dislikes

244. If you are making families buy a uniform for the pride team have them wear it.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

- 245. At the beginning of the year I think we needed to make sure we put a positive spin while coaching and instructing. Got better throughout the season. Need to remember these are 10U girls.
- 246. Being outclassed at some tournaments. Not being prepared for what was going to happen at the tournaments. Not going over some of the skills needed at the tournaments such as bunting, sliding, stealing. Tournaments not having consistent rules. i.e rules changing one tournament game to the other within the same tournament. Making sure that players are treated age appropriately by the coaches. I specifically had a discussion with the 10U coach about appropriateness at games. Improvement was made by him.
- 247. As I expressed earlier in the survey; lack of communication, poor uniform choices, and the somewhat defeatist attitude regarding this part of the program.
- 248. The outfield plays at the fence. They run the ball in. Throw it. Infield plays at the edge of the infield. Like a slow pitch softball team.
- 249. I think the price was ridiculous considering I already paid \$100 for the regular team. The uniform was also more money in addition to the \$200. It was also very clear our pride team was made up of any players that wanted to be on it to get the numbers high enough. Because there were girls on there that were not ready nor interested in that type of play.
- 250. Gender appropriate thought from the coaches. Remembering they are 10 and 11 year old girls and boys.

CLARIFICATION: By having an appropriate thought process for 10 and 11 year old girls. I was meaning that when trying to motivate girls of this age "yelling " or using words/statements that are negative just make the girls at this age shut down and give up. A better way is to use a stern voice but positive statements that encourage the girls. Encouraging them to cheer for team members in the dugout while at bat.

- 251. Expensive...for only 3 tournaments

Recommended Changes

- 252. Offer a more competitive practice for pride...
- 253. For tournaments maybe have players play their set positions. Seemed we would move girls to positions they hadn't played much even in league sometimes.
- 254. Continue the program with making sure the girls are prepared for the games.
- 255. Commit to true tournament teams based on tryouts being held by a multitude of coaches who aren't using the "coaches kid" card. I described much of this earlier. I see very little advantage in having a "Pride" team who goes to a few tournaments to face true tournament teams and be destroyed in each game. It needs to be about talent and dedication. We also need to make sure we would have coaches truly dedicated and able to handle the higher level of competition.
- 256. Put Tera in charge.
- 257. Lower the price



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

12U Black Team - Head Coach Rod Przybyl

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	2	0	1	5	0	3.13
Communication from Coaching Staff	1	0	2	2	3	3.75
Number of Practices	3	1	1	3	0	2.50
Number of Games	0	0	1	6	1	4.00
Level of Competition	0	0	3	4	1	3.75
Proximity of Away Games	0	0	1	3	4	4.38
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	2	0	1	3	2	3.38
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	2	5	1	3.88
Amount of Playing Time	0	0	1	5	2	4.13
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$100)?	2	0	1	4	1	3.25

Likes

- 258. Having Morgan Mills as an assistant coach; good umpires
- 259. Right number of games.
- 260. Great group of girls and parents.
- 261. Girls had an opportunity to play different positions. They supported each other well.
- 262. Love softball, no matter what.

Dislikes

- 263. Negativity from Rod Przybyl toward the girls on the 12U black team; Yelling at the girls from the dugout during a game, sometimes repetitively; Lack of structured practices; the decision to cancel the remaining practices for the season; however, PRIDE was still practicing. "extra pitcher/catcher practices" may have reinforced bad habits/technique rather than help players progress; know Coach Rabl meant well by giving her time.
- 264. Some girls did not appear to want to play.
- 265. Level in which our girls pay at, we can only improve with more practice.



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266. The girls struggled with basic skills. Pitching seemed to be difficult for the team.
267. Will propose to you that there may be a lot of unhappy parents / players... maybe not. But likely bc of very young, inexperienced pool of players, & 1st yr pitchers. Some players & parents got frustrated, & wanted to blame. I say play ball, only way to get better. When game schedule was light & more practices scheduled, lots of rainouts. Then game schedule heavy so practices cancelled. Understandable, but unfortunate. Practices are important.
268. Coach was negative and cancelled practices saying that they were not needed because of games however it was a young inexperienced team and when they needed help during a game they got yelled at instead of to on how to play.

Recommended Changes

269. I would suggest that player and team expectations be communicated prior to the start of the season or at the initial practice, such as arriving to practice on time and ready to go at the start of practice, not getting cleats on when practice is to begin.
270. More practices. More positive coaching/feedback to the players, this includes parent helpers. Screaming mistakes instead of coaching and practicing weak areas will make a more productive outcome.
271. More practice time could have helped.
272. If possible, more spread out game schedule so 1 practice / week all year reasonable.
273. 90 Minute practice at least once a week



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

12U Orange Team - Head Coach Ryan Drost

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	1	3	0	1	2	3.00
Communication from Coaching Staff	1	1	0	3	2	3.57
Number of Practices	2	2	1	2	0	2.43
Number of Games	0	0	2	5	0	3.71
Level of Competition	0	0	1	6	0	3.86
Proximity of Away Games	0	0	0	6	1	4.14
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	1	1	0	3	2	3.57
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	2	2	0	2	1	2.71
Amount of Playing Time	0	0	1	4	2	4.14
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$100)?	3	1	1	1	1	2.43

Likes

274. Katie was encouraging.
275. Very positive coaches, great teamwork between coaches and kids, willingness to listen on both ends.

Dislikes

276. I know that coaches are volunteer so I don't want to be too hard on them. However, the 12U coaches probably should have never volunteered. They had little to no softball experience and little to no coaching skills. The absence of skills in both areas made it a very, very tough season. The coaches didn't even run basic softball drills to allow the players to improve over the season. We were not competitive with other teams and are way behind the skill level of the surrounding clubs. Though the girls did not seem to be too frustrated, I'm worried about girls returning and participating in the future with this type of low level program.
277. I don't feel like my daughter actually learned anything new this year.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

278. Starts practices so late in year. Boys baseball had 6 to 8 practices before the girls started. Coaching was awful. Pride coaching is awful. Why is every town so far ahead? The poor girls are not learning anything. Better rethink the coaching staff.
279. This team is way behind the 8 ball. My daughter has been in this program for 3 years and is not at the level she needs to be at to compete at a 12U level. I feel that's a strong reflection on the coaches.
280. With so many players, it is hard to focus on the individual players and teach them. Sometimes my daughter only got to bat 1 or 2 times in an entire game because they have so many in the batting order.

Recommended Changes

281. TURN THE SCOREBOARDS ON!!! The girls need to learn to have fun & be confident with or without it!!
282. Start practices earlier in year. Get all new coaches. Actually hold practices that are informal and not spending half the practice warming up in outfield so coaches can gab. Keep Tami Carlson out of there. She is most negative person on the girls. Teach the game and have fun.
283. I feel like there should be more practices before games start and that they should continue until the end of the season.
284. Knowledgeable coaches who want them to learn and push them to learn. Not brush things off.
285. Is there enough girls to split into 3 teams?



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

12U Pride Team - Head Coach Rod Przybyl

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	1	2	0	5	0	3.13
Communication from Coaching Staff	1	0	2	0	5	4.00
Number of Practices	3	1	3	1	0	2.25
Number of Tournaments	0	1	4	2	1	3.38
Quality of Tournaments	0	0	2	5	1	3.88
Level of Competition	1	0	3	3	1	3.38
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	3	0	1	1	3	3.13
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	2	4	2	4.00
Skill Level of Portage Pride 12U Team	2	4	1	1	0	2.13
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$250)?	3	2	2	1	0	2.13

Likes

- 286. Good experience for my daughter
- 287. Great group of girls and parents.
- 288. Tourneys were quality, & quantity good. Rod knowledgeable & good w/emails & info.
- 289. I really like that Pride is an option for girls who want to play more than just Rec games. It gives them an opportunity to grow as athletes.
- 290. Coaches were great, communication was great.

Dislikes

- 291. Again, girls not vested in playing. Having a child who played 14U Pride, these girls were very immature & didn't try to learn as much as they should. I think parents pushed them to play.
- 292. Level in which our girls play at, we can only improve with more practice.
- 293. Adults & kids didn't appreciate effects of stress on undeveloped team. Some of the girls not ready for tourneys, emotionally or physically.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

294. On a few occasions it was brought to my attention that the head coaches were talking down to the girls. It really seemed to break their spirit. After the first tournament few girls mentioned that they didn't even want to play softball at all anymore. Unless there's a big change my daughters will not be playing in Pride. We also didn't practice a lot. I know things come up but there was quite a few parents to help if needed and would have helped run practices if needed.

CLARIFICATION: It really started during the practices. Both 12U Pride coaches. They seemed to be easily frustrated and would talk down to the girls or just yell at them. Then at the first tournament the head coach was talking down to the girls in the dugout, telling them he was disappointed in them and maybe they shouldn't come back. The following day I don't know exactly what was said but four girls came out of the dugout crying. I did address this with the coach and he apologized to me, I don't know that he actually talked to any of the girls to apologize for his behavior though. It has also been noticed by numerous parents including parents from other age groups from our leagues. They've voiced to me that they would rather bring their girls to other cities then to deal with poor coaching.

295. Should have had tryouts for all team members. No play if you want to play. Not a competition level team this year. Too much money for lack of instruction, practice, and number of tournaments.
296. Getting beat badly at every tournament because we are nowhere near the quality of other teams. Playing several weekends in a row. Quality of players. Most afraid of the ball, some can't catch a ball, some can't follow simple directions. Some don't want to be there.

Recommended Changes

297. More practices.; More positive coaching/feedback to the players, this includes parent helpers. Screaming mistakes instead of coaching and practicing weak areas will make a more productive outcome.
298. Shallow skill pool, but was tougher when anyone who showed in August made team. SOME girls not just young, unskilled, but immature... crying, whining, refusing to listen or play. Other girls w/ more talent then reluctant to join. Last year there was also a spring tryout, helpful for those unsure in August, especially if schedule available in spring. This age group also needs pitching development / encouragement.
299. Play players based on talent and batting order based on the reason for having a batting order. (Not drawing #s) Positive coaches. Have batting practice. (Didn't have any in the cages)



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

14U Black Team - Head Coach Jason Krocker

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	0	0	0	3	4	4.57
Communication from Coaching Staff	0	0	1	1	5	4.57
Number of Practices	0	0	1	3	3	4.29
Number of Games	0	1	0	4	2	4.00
Level of Competition	0	1	0	2	4	4.29
Proximity of Away Games	0	0	0	5	2	4.29
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	1	1	5	4.57
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	1	2	4	4.43
Amount of Playing Time	0	1	0	1	5	4.43
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$100)?	0	0	3	1	3	4.00

Likes

- 300. Got to play a lot of softball and took her role as a leader seriously.
- 301. Coaches Jason Krocker, Beth Loomis, and Tim Kratz did a great job this year and kept this season fun. Hopefully they decide to do it again next year.
- 302. All kids improved tremendously.

Dislikes

- 303. The level of play was not to where she is at as a softball player.
- 304. I do not care for the political nature of which kids are playing and how much. Although this year my daughter was able to play more she is a pitcher and was not given adequate time to play. She played behind the same pitcher she did last year. I do not believe she was given equal playing time.
- 305. Several games rained out. We understand that we cannot dictate the weather, however, is there a way to try to reschedule some of these so the girls get more playing time?
- 306. Games an hour away I feel is a little bit far, but still doable.
- 307. Teams were not chosen in a fair manner. Orange was heavy on Pride players.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Recommended Changes

- 308. Have a 12U, 14U , 16U and 18U
- 309. More position training for girls who know what position they are going to play.
- 310. Late in the season not enough practices
- 311. Let head coaches draft players to ensure equity.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

14U Orange Team - Head Coach Joe Woodhouse

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	1	1	1	5	0	3.25
Communication from Coaching Staff	0	2	1	3	2	3.63
Number of Practices	0	0	1	6	1	4.00
Number of Games	0	0	1	6	1	4.00
Level of Competition	1	0	3	4	0	3.25
Proximity of Away Games	0	0	3	5	0	3.63
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	0	3	1	2	2	3.38
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	0	1	1	4	2	3.88
Amount of Playing Time	0	1	3	3	1	3.50
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$100)?	1	1	1	5	0	3.25

Likes

- 312. I like the organization of the program. Liked assistant coach, he gave kids positive, friendly feedback.
- 313. Players got experience all over the field
- 314. Amount of games. Offering other school districts to participate in the Portage program.
- 315. Doubleheaders were great

Dislikes

- 316. I would not want my daughter to be coached by head coach again. He was negative, didn't give much positive feedback. He had his favorites that played all the time. This is suppose to be league for the kids to learn. My daughter is a pitcher and only pitched parts of a couple games, while one other girl was hardly ever there, but when she was, she pitched. The other pitcher played all the time!!!! My daughter practiced a lot outside of games, but deserved to have equal pitching. That is how you improve, by playing games. Last year, she had several opportunities to pitch on league.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

- 317. As my daughter will be an older player the level of competition and quality of other players on the team will be marginal.
- 318. You have to play on the Orange team to be on the Pride team!
- 319. Again, not sure what team is what (orange vs. black) but it didn't matter cause Woodhouse was at both. My daughters refuse every year to play or be involved because of Joe Woodhouse.
- 320. Lack of positive reinforcement

Recommended Changes

- 321. New coach, who has patience to teach all the girls, not just his favorites.
- 322. Not sure how to improve the overall level of knowledge of players. The marginal players don't make the practices and aren't going to get better. More practice is needed.
- 323. Remove Joe Woodhouse from your program.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

14U Pride Team - Head Coach Joe Woodhouse

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	0	1	1	3	3	4.00
Communication from Coaching Staff	0	1	2	0	5	4.13
Number of Practices	0	0	3	3	2	3.88
Number of GMMFL Games	0	0	3	4	1	3.75
Number of Tournaments	0	0	1	5	2	4.13
Quality of Tournaments	0	0	2	3	3	4.13
Level of Competition	0	0	1	4	3	4.25
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	0	2	2	0	4	3.75
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	2	2	4	4.25
Skill Level of Portage Pride 14U Team	0	1	1	4	2	3.88
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$300)?	1	1	1	3	2	3.50

Likes

324. My daughter liked the girls on the team and assistant coaches help and positive attitude . Liked competition level.
325. It was a great group of athletes and parents. The nice thing about Pride Softball is Joe has done a good job of limiting travel, yet finding great competition and fun tournaments and keeping the cost reasonable. Being able to play that much softball is what summer is about and my daughter wouldn't be happy without it.
326. Going into next year I am not sure that the level of coaching will be there (and that include me).
327. Feel that it is important for the girls to play together, to build on skills for high school.
328. Practices were busy. Some of the tournaments were exactly the right level of difficulty.
329. The girls were given every opportunity to improve their skills in softball. Having some girls from outside of the school district was very beneficial and made the team much stronger.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Dislikes

- 330. Didn't like head coach, he was negative and has his favorite players that he cares about. My daughter was at practices and only missed 1 tournament because of vacation. Others wouldn't be at practice or several games, but played whole game when they were there. Everyone should have an inning or two in the dugout. Not the same 4 girls. We paid our money. Then if we were short, they would bring in other girls who didn't pay and played more while ours sat in the dugout. Didn't like white Jersey's we bought and only wore a couple times. At a tournament where the same girl pitched 3 games in a row. She was the best pitcher, but that is crazy, how are others suppose to get better, plus it gave other pitchers the feeling that there was no confidence in them.
- 331. Not having a 16U Pride so we will need to split up the girls which is a shame. They have grown so much as a team, which is evident in their success, that it is too bad they will be on different travel teams next year.
- 332. Some of the better pitchers and player play elsewhere.
- 333. Players that show up for a tournament when it is convenient for them.
- 334. Please break down the \$300 payment!
- 335. If you are going to coach Pride, do that. Splitting time between being an Xplozion supporter and a Pride coach was not productive. I feel that the tournaments chosen would have been different had Joe's daughter not been playing on another team. I get that it gets expensive to be at so many tournaments, but there is a time to be cognizant of your limitations as a head coach and act accordingly. I don't see how getting fill-in coaches was an effective solution (although Roger and the others were very good coaches). Two players chose to play on xplozion, that's great for them, but I feel that the rest of the team had to work around that schedule in some capacity.
- 336. Some players did not appear to be totally committed to the team.
- 337. Lack of positive reinforcement

Recommended Changes

- 338. New coach!!!!
- 339. No secret, I would love to see a 16U Pride team.
- 340. Choose a team, and represent that team 100 %
- 341. We sort of stopped practicing after the season was in full swing. The girls still need time for that. Playing games is an effective teaching tool, but it turned down a punitive path more often than not for some, meaning that a mistake got some players pulled from that position with very little follow up at nonexistent practices. Maybe that was more about weather, not sure. I think that metro league is a good idea, but felt like we kept seeing those same teams in every tournament. A bit of overkill. Is there another option? Either drop the league or find better tournaments with different teams regardless of how much certain players have to travel due to their involvement in other programs. I really would like to see a few more practices to work on the things that are not happening in games.
- 342. Could have been involved in more competitive tournaments. Some players did not have the skills or the passion to be on a 14U traveling team. I would continue to find the best players including non-district players to make a competitive team.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

16/18U Team - Head Coach Connie Wampler

	1 Very Unsatisfied	2 Unsatisfied	3 Neutral	4 Satisfied	5 Very Satisfied	Average (1-5)
Overall Experience	0	0	0	8	4	4.33
Communication from Coaching Staff	0	0	1	4	7	4.50
Number of Practices	0	0	1	6	5	4.33
Number of Games	0	1	1	6	4	4.08
Level of Competition	1	2	3	5	1	3.25
Proximity of Away Games	0	0	1	9	2	4.08
Behavior of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	0	5	7	4.58
Knowledge of Coaches & Volunteers	0	0	1	5	6	4.42
Amount of Playing Time	0	0	0	8	4	4.33
Value of what you received for your registration fee (\$100)?	0	1	2	7	2	3.83

Likes

- 343. Love the fact that you included her with her busy schedule; Love the talking to each girl all the encouragement
- 344. athlete played.
- 345. Great program, great coaches and great kids!
- 346. Opportunity for the high school girls to work together on the field
- 347. Awesome experience. Good to play double headers.
- 348. It's better than past but look for better opportunities for the girls. Gives Connie a good opportunity to see kids play different positions in game situations. Also give the HS players feedback on what they need to work on in the off season.
- 349. Much more relaxed practice and game atmosphere. I really think we need to be stressing these games as learning experiences...which is a big step for me because I'm always about winning

Dislikes

- 350. The fact we couldn't make it to more games



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

- 351. some girls sitting in the dug out too much. They paid also, so they should play more.
- 352. Some of the communication. As I mentioned, changes should be communicated to parents, via email or phone call. I don't appreciate this being done to grandparents, aunts, parents girlfriends, etc. The player and the parents are the decision makers when it comes to scheduling and anything financial. And it is the parents who are ultimately responsible for their children's whereabouts.
- 353. Many of the teams that we played at the HS level, where very heavy with 8th and 9th graders. Plus late cancellations with team not having enough players.
- 354. Disappointed about the number of cancelled games that were not rescheduled or replaced with other games.

Recommended Changes

- 355. respect the player and families. This is a learning opportunity for the students to improve their abilities. They can not do that during games by sitting on the bench 90% of the over all games.
- 356. More intense practices so that they are useful and productive...INTENSITY!; "Practice with a purpose"
- 357. Run a tournament if possible. I know it's tough with the girls' schedules, tho.
- 358. We lost two sets of home games, take some of those funds and help off set winter training facility cost. Troy should be Honorary Head Coach in 2018. LOL.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Additional Comments

359. I appreciate the fact that every person who coaches or volunteers for NOTHING takes time out of their schedules and everyday life to make an impact on someone else's life. They never know how they are affecting each and everyone of these kids. I know my own girls have struggled with not being the best athletes on the team and neither have to be but I ask they do their best. A good coach pulls that out in them. You don't have to yell and scream at them or the opposite treat them like they are babies. I thank you for the opportunity of all of the practices on the Sat mornings giving them tips to become better. Again I thank you for not being upset when they can't make it to each realizing it is not because they don't have a drive to get there maybe life happened. I do have to mention one of our practiced nights we turned into a scrimmage with 10u and 12u it was the worst night I have everything I could do to not get up and take every kid off the field and remove the 12u coach. She stood out on the field screamed at the girls why they did something or if they missed the ball why they missed it screamed at a girl cause it wasn't a force out and that's why she doesn't play there if you want to play yelled at the girls for mispronouncing her daughter's name screamed at her daughter she had only been gone a week how did she forget everything she knew in a week screamed at the girls who almost collided on the field why they did that they told another girl if she didn't hit the ball she was going to stand there all night till she hit it.... It was not good and many parents said welcome to 12u/pride I said no way you need to deal with this immediately!!!! That treatment is uncalled for. I know our team is new but I am truly hoping for two teams next year and maybe a bit more opportunity for them... scrimmage each other as often as they can for basics maybe. Taking them to tournaments where girls practice 53 times and play 35 games when we practice 5 times and played 3 games was a rough start. Maybe look into making up games when they get cancelled from rain as well if they can but a suggestion would be if you are going to make up one game make them all up. Please advise coaches when there's a bathroom on the facility use it especially when you have two other coaches coaching with you it is not ok to walk off in the woods during game and come back....yuck.. high fives after that gave me the willies not gonna lie.... Thanks for all involved in the program. I know the girls are both glad they are involved in Portage SB.
360. I'm fine.
361. I will admit at the beginning of the season I was upset that Lacy had to play on the 14U teams, but looking at how much the 16/18U played, I am glad she did as she got to play a lot of softball. I know the 16U Pride has been looked into, but if that cannot happen I hope there is a way that the older kids can play more rec ball. I am having Lacy tryout for several club teams, it is going to be tough to afford, but I do not want her going through a whole summer not playing the sport she loves the most. Thank you all for what you do for this program and the time put in. If there is any way I can be of assistance, I am only a phone call away.
362. I thought the season went well. Thanks to all who helped make this a good season and good experience for the girls.
363. I have seen games at other levels as well as the level my daughters. Training coaches how they positively impact the girls lives and teach a love for the game. I saw coaches specifically at the 12U level belittle the players and break their spirits while coaching at games.



2017 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

364. The negativity that was both heard and seen by 12U black Coach Rod didn't represent Portage youth softball, the team or the Portage community well.
365. Thanks for all you do for these girls! My daughters love to play.
366. Overall I feel this is a well run organization, the time that the coaches put in is greatly appreciated. We would be interested in some type of year round play. Whether just practices, clinics, etc.
367. Thank you for all that you do for girls softball.
368. I think it was a positive experience for my little girl. Sometimes she would complain and not want to go, but once we got her there she always had fun.
369. Thank you to all of the coaches for their time and dedication to all of the players!
370. Sorry, but bottom line is Coach Joe Woodhouse is the sole reason in the entire program including at the school level and basketball for what it's worth, that my daughters refuse to play. Unfortunately, we as parents know that they enjoy softball and have skill levels where they can contribute to the team but we have to force them to participate and this is because their hatred of him and the way he treats and communicates with them.
371. I really found Coach Krockers final email with a personal comment about each child very touching. It is a very nice thing to do to notice each of them like that publicly.
372. Looking forward to our first board meeting following the season and hoping we are ready to put a lot of thought into what we want Portage Youth and Portage High School softball to be.
373. There should be more effort in getting the most qualified girls to commit to a Portage Area traveling team. There appears to be more talent in the area then whom actually came out for the team. It would be nice to see some of the girls stick together and form a Portage Area 16U team and take the more talented girls from outside the district as well so we can be competitive.
374. My daughter loves softball and the opportunity to play. I am grateful to all that have practice and "coach" the girls. I did help this year and would be happy to help in the years to come.
375. Thought the rookie league was a complete success! We have to get these girls early and make it fun so they want to do it more than soccer and dance!
376. I will have a really hard time having my daughter play for Portage next summer without a change in quality of the program. Will more than likely look elsewhere.
377. Thank you to all the volunteers and coaches that sacrificed their time to help our softball program.
378. Thanks to all who give their time to this program. I played as a youth in Portage but there weren't opportunities at this age when I played, nor were Varsity coaches and players involved.
379. Thanks so much to everyone involved...very organized!
380. Can't wait until next year!

NOTE: This survey was available for parents to complete from July 25, 2017 to August 9, 2017. Comments were placed in this document to reflect where they were entered in the actual survey. Responses have not been edited other than for simple spelling and punctuation errors. All responses are anonymous unless the respondent provided other identifying information.